

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Confirmation No.: 4510

Klas OLOFSSON

Date: October 24, 2007

Serial No.: 10/552,794

Group Art Unit: 3748

Filed: October 11, 2005

Examiner: Tu Minh Nguyen

For: METHOD AND DEVICE OF A PARTICLE FILTER FOR AN EXHAUST
SYSTEM, SILENCER INCLUDING SUCH A DEVICE, AND A COMBUSTION
ENGINE DRIVEN VEHICLE

VIA EFS-WEB

Commissioner for Patents

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Interview Summary

Sir:

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesy of Examiner T. Nguyen for granting a telephone interview with Applicant's undersigned representative, which was held Tuesday morning, 23 October 2007. The following is a brief summary of that interview.

In the interview, the rejection of claims 1, 4, 6 and 9 were discussed. Applicant noted that independent claim 1 recites passing exhaust gas through a catalyst, including during bypassing of a filter. Independent claim 6 recites a catalyst and a device operable for causing the exhaust gasses to pass through the catalyst during bypassing of a filter.

In contrast, the Gillingham reference, and particularly the embodiment of Figs. 12-13 relied upon in the Office Action, do not teach a catalyst, nor that exhaust gasses are led through the catalyst, including during bypassing of the filter. There is no teaching or suggestion of a catalyst in Gillingham, only that the embodiment of Figs. 12-13 include duplicate traps (254, 256).

Further, independent claims 1 and 6 recite method and apparatus, respectively, to the effect that the during bypassing of the filter, the exhaust gasses are led through a space that surrounds the filter. In contrast, Gillingham teaches that the bypass gasses are led through a tube (260) in the center of the trap (256), and not through a space surrounding the filter as recited in independent claims 1 and 6.

It was agreed in the interview that claims 1 and 6 are distinguished over Gillingham. Examiner requested a written response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 setting forth the arguments in full, which would be met with a withdrawal of the Gillingham rejection and further action in due course.

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ON OCTOBER 24, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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